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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Lynch, et al.
Serial No. : 09/408,383
Filed : September 29, 1999
For : GUIDEWIRE ADVANCEMENT SYSTEM
Examiner : Dinh X. Nguyen
Group Art Unit : 3738

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Date: March 22, 2002

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AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 18, 2001, please amend the claims of the above-identified application as follows:

Rewrite Claims 1, 16 and 25 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A guidewire advancement device comprising:
- a flexible guidewire having a curved distal end;
 - a casing for holding the guidewire, the casing being formed in a loop and having an outlet;
 - a straightening element having a guidewire exit point and a tube portion adjacent the guidewire exit point, the tube portion formed to straighten the curved distal end of